

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES **Department of Mental Health**

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## PRESS RELEASE

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## LACDMH PSYCHIATRIST NAMED AACAP DISTINGUISHED FELLOW

The Distinguished Fellow honor is the highest membership honor given by AACAP.

Los Angeles, CA – The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) congratulates Supervising Mental Health Psychiatrist Hanumantha Damerla, M.D., on his recent accomplishment of becoming a Distinguished Fellow with the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP). "Distinguished Fellow is the highest membership honor that AACAP bestows upon members," stated AACAP President Martin Drell, M.D.

AACAP recognized Dr. Damerla as one of the outstanding child and adolescent psychiatrists with professional achievements and exemplary training, skill and experience in his specialty. Dr. Damerla serves as the Medical Director for Juvenile Justice Camps and the Dorothy Kirby Center. He has worked with LACDMH since 2004 and has been with LA County for almost 13 years.

Dr. Damerla will be honored along with other Distinguished Fellows at the AACAP's 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Karl Menninger, M.D., Plenary on Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4 P.M. at the Walt Disney World Dolphin Hotel in Orlando.

The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health is the largest county-operated mental health department in the United States, directly operating 75 program sites and more than 100 co-located sites. Each year, it contracts with approximately 1,000 agencies and individual practitioners to provide a spectrum of mental health services to more than 250,000 residents of all ages. The Department's mission – enriching lives through partnership to strengthen our community's capacity to support recovery and resiliency – is accomplished by working with stakeholders and community partners to provide clinically competent, culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate mental health services to clients in the least restrictive manner possible.